

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for enhancing production of a desired protein in a plant cell or a plant which comprises inserting a first nucleic acid upstream of a second nucleic acid to form a fused nucleic acid wherein said first nucleic acid encodes a ubiquitin monomer and wherein said second nucleic acid encodes said desired protein and further wherein said fused nucleic acid encodes a fusion protein and further wherein expression of said fusion protein is not under the control of a ubiquitin promoter.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said ubiquitin monomer consists of SEQ ID NO:2.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the carboxy terminus of said ubiquitin forms a peptide linkage with the amino terminus of said desired protein.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein said first nucleic acid comprises bases 3-230 of SEQ ID NO:1.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein said fused nucleic acid is under the control of a 35S promoter.
6. A method for enhancing production of a desired protein as part of a fusion protein in a plant cell or a plant which comprises inserting a first nucleic acid upstream of a second nucleic acid to form a fused nucleic acid wherein said first nucleic acid encodes a protein of SEQ ID NO:4 and wherein said second nucleic acid encodes said desired protein and further wherein said fused nucleic acid encodes said fusion protein.
7. The method of claim 6 wherein the carboxy terminus of said protein of SEQ ID NO:4 forms a peptide linkage with the amino terminus of said desired protein.
8. The method of claim 6 wherein said first nucleic acid comprises bases 6-47 of SEQ ID NO:3.

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9. The method of claim 6 wherein said fused nucleic acid is under the control of a 35S promoter.
10. A nucleic acid vector capable of transforming a plant cell wherein said vector comprises nucleic acid which encodes a fusion protein wherein said fusion protein comprises a ubiquitin monomer linked to a protein of interest and further wherein expression of said fusion protein is not under the control of a ubiquitin promoter.
11. The vector of claim 10 wherein said ubiquitin consists of SEQ ID NO:2.
12. The vector of claim 10 wherein said ubiquitin is linked in a peptide linkage at its carboxy terminus to the amino terminus of said protein of interest.
13. The vector of claim 10 wherein said nucleic acid is under the control of a 35S promoter.
14. The vector of claim 10 wherein said vector comprises bases 3-230 of SEQ ID NO:1.
15. A nucleic acid vector capable of transforming a plant cell wherein said vector comprises a nucleic acid which encodes a fusion protein wherein said fusion protein comprises a protein of SEQ ID NO:4 linked to a protein of interest.
16. The vector of claim 15 wherein said protein of SEQ ID NO:4 is linked in a peptide linkage at its carboxy terminus to the amino terminus of said protein of interest.
17. The vector of claim 15 wherein said nucleic acid is under the control of a 35S promoter.
18. The vector of claim 15 wherein said vector comprises bases 6-47 of SEQ ID NO:3.
19. A plant cell or a plant comprising the vector of claim 10.
20. A plant cell or a plant comprising the vector of claim 15.

21. A nucleic acid comprising SEQ ID NO:1.
22. A nucleic acid consisting of SEQ ID NO:1.
23. A nucleic acid comprising SEQ ID NO:3.
24. A nucleic acid consisting of SEQ ID NO:3.
25. A protein comprising SEQ ID NO:2.
26. A protein consisting of SEQ ID NO:2.
27. A protein consisting of SEQ ID NO:4.
28. A fusion protein wherein said fusion protein comprises a ubiquitin monomer at the amino terminus of said fusion protein and wherein said fusion protein comprises a second protein at its carboxy terminus.
29. The fusion protein of claim 28 wherein said ubiquitin monomer consists of SEQ ID NO:2.
30. The fusion protein of claim 28 wherein the carboxy terminus of said ubiquitin monomer forms a peptide linkage with the amino terminus of said second protein.
31. A fusion protein wherein said fusion protein comprises a protein of SEQ ID NO:4 at the amino terminus of said fusion protein and wherein said fusion protein comprises a second protein at its carboxy terminus.
32. The fusion protein of claim 31 wherein the carboxy terminus of said protein of SEQ ID NO:4 forms a peptide linkage with the amino terminus of said second protein.